

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the claims, please cancel claims 24, 25, 29 and 30 and amend claims 14-17, 20, 23, 26 and 28 as follows:

1-13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) A process for delivering a ~~large~~ nucleic acid to a cell, comprising:

- a) inserting the cargo into a reverse micelle, wherein the reverse micelle comprises a plurality of neutral, negative, or zwitterionic amphipathic molecules containing reactive functional groups;[[.]]
- b) polymerizing two or more of the amphipathic molecules thereby forming a polymerized reverse micelle; and,
- c) contacting the cell with the polymerized reverse micelle.

15. (currently amended) The process of claim 14 wherein at least one of the amphipathic molecules contains a ~~biologically labile~~ bond.

16. (currently amended) The process of claim 15 wherein cleavage of the ~~biologically labile~~ bond disrupts the reverse micelle.

17. (currently amended) The process of claim 15 wherein the ~~biologically labile bonds~~ bond consists of a disulfide bond.

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (currently amended) The process of claim 15 wherein the ~~biologically labile bonds~~ bond consists of a silicon – heteroatom bond.

21. (canceled)

22. (canceled)

23. (currently amended) The process of claim 15 wherein the ~~biologically labile bonds~~ bond consists of an amide constructed from a compound having a substructure of succinic anhydride.

24. (canceled)

25. (canceled)

26. (currently amended) A reverse micelle containing a ~~molecule~~ nucleic acid formed by the process comprising:

- a) inserting the ~~molecule~~ nucleic acid into a negatively-charged, zwitterionic, or neutral reverse micelle, wherein the reverse micelle comprises a plurality of amphipathic compounds containing reactive functional groups capable of participating in a polymerization reaction; and

- b) polymerizing two or more of the amphipathic compounds.
27. (previously presented) The complex of claim 26 wherein at least one of the amphipathic molecules contains a biologically labile bond.
28. (currently amended) The complex of claim 27 wherein cleaving the ~~disulfide~~ biologically labile bond disrupts the reverse micelle.
29. (canceled)
30. (canceled)
31. (previously presented) The complex of claim 30 wherein the nucleic acid is compacted.